

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the  
Middle District of North Carolina

In the Matter of the Search of  
(Briefly describe the property to be searched  
or identify the person by name and address)

The premises located at  
807 Jennings Berry Drive,  
Elon, North Carolina 27244

Case No.

15mj288-1

## APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT

I, a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government, request a search warrant and state under penalty of perjury that I have reason to believe that on the following person or property (identify the person or describe the property to be searched and give its location):

The premises located at 807 Jennings Berry Drive, Elon, NC 27244, more particularly described in Attachment A, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

located in the Middle District of North Carolina, there is now concealed (identify the person or describe the property to be seized):

Evidence of, instrumentalities used in committing, and fruits of the crime of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252A(a)(5)(B) and (b)(2), all of which are more particularly described in Attachment B, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

The basis for the search under Fed. R. Crim. P. 41(c) is (check one or more):

- ☒ evidence of a crime;  
☒ contraband, fruits of crime, or other items illegally possessed;  
☒ property designed for use, intended for use, or used in committing a crime;  
☐ a person to be arrested or a person who is unlawfully restrained.

The search is related to a violation of:

Code Section  
18 U.S.C. §§ 2252A(a)(5)(B)  
and (b)(2)

Offense Description  
possession of, knowing access, conspiracy to access, or attempted access with  
intent to view child pornography

The application is based on these facts:

- ☒ Continued on the attached sheet.  
☐ Delayed notice of        days (give exact ending date if more than 30 days:       ) is requested under 18 U.S.C. § 3103a, the basis of which is set forth on the attached sheet.

  
Applicant's signature

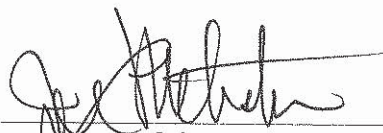
Tara S. Cataldo, FBI Special Agent  
Printed name and title

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date:

9/15/15 3:55 PM

City and state: Durham, North Carolina

  
Judge's signature

Joe L. Webster, United States Magistrate Judge  
Printed name and title

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEARCH OF THE  
PREMISES LOCATED AT:

807 Jennings Berry Drive, Elon, North Carolina  
27244

**UNDER SEAL**

Case No. 15mj288-1

**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR SEARCH WARRANT**

**INTRODUCTION**

I, Tara S. Cataldo, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. I am a Special Agent (SA) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and have been since March of 2008. My initial training consisted of a twenty week FBI new agent course during which I received instruction on various aspects of federal investigations. In addition, I have received more than 350 hours of training related to computers and cyber matters, to include investigations of cyber crime. I am currently assigned to the Charlotte Division and stationed at the Greensboro Resident Agency. Prior to joining the FBI, I worked in law enforcement for over eight years as a police officer and sheriff's investigator. I have been the case agent or supporting agent in numerous investigations, including investigations involving child pornography, kidnapping, computer intrusion, and internet fraud. I have received training in the area of child pornography and child exploitation, and have had the opportunity to observe and review numerous examples of child pornography (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2256) in all forms of media including computer media. Moreover, I am a federal law enforcement officer who is engaged in enforcing the criminal laws, including 18 U.S.C. §§ 2251 and 2252A, and I am authorized by the Attorney General to request a search warrant.

2. I have probable cause to believe that contraband and evidence of a crime, fruits of a crime, and instrumentalities of violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252A(a)(5)(B) and (b)(2) (possession of, knowing access, conspiracy to access, or attempted access with intent to view child pornography), are located at 807 Jennings Berry Drive, Elon, North Carolina 27244 (hereinafter the "SUBJECT PREMISES"), which is located in the Middle District of North Carolina. I submit this application and affidavit in support of a search warrant authorizing a search of the SUBJECT PREMISES as described in Attachment A for the items described in Attachment B, both incorporated herein by reference. I request authority to search the entire premises, including the residential dwelling or any out buildings such as detached garage, sheds or barns, and any vehicles located on the property as described in Attachment A for the items described in Attachment B, and to seize all items listed in Attachment B as contraband and instrumentalities, fruits, and evidence of crime.
3. The statements contained in this affidavit are based in part on: information provided by FBI Special Agents; written reports about this and other investigations that I have received, directly or indirectly, from other law enforcement agents, information gathered from the service of administrative subpoenas; the results of physical and electronic surveillance conducted by law enforcement agents; independent investigation and analysis by FBI agents/analysts and computer forensic professionals; and my experience, training and background as a Special Agent with the FBI. Because this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of securing authorization for the requested search warrant, I have not included each and every fact known to me concerning this investigation. Instead, I have set forth only the facts that I believe are necessary to establish the necessary foundation for the



requested warrant.

### **RELEVANT STATUTES**

4. This investigation concerns alleged violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252A(a)(5)(B) and (b)(2) (possession of, knowing access, conspiracy to access, or attempted access with intent to view child pornography).
  - a. 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252A(a)(5)(B) and (b)(2) prohibits a person from knowingly possessing or knowingly accessing with intent to view, or attempting to do so, any material that contains an image of child pornography, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2256(8), that has been mailed, or shipped or transported using any means or facility of interstate or foreign commerce or in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by computer, or that was produced using materials that have been mailed or shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by computer.

### **DEFINITIONS**

5. The following definitions apply to this Affidavit and attachments hereto:
  - a. “Bulletin Board” means an Internet-based website that is either secured (accessible with a password) or unsecured, and provides members with the ability to view postings by other members and make postings themselves. Postings can contain text messages, still images, video images, or web addresses that direct other members to specific content the poster wishes. Bulletin boards are also referred to as “internet forums” or “message



boards.” A “post” or “posting” is a single message posted by a user. Users of a bulletin board may post messages in reply to a post. A message “thread,” often labeled a “topic,” refers to a linked series of posts and reply messages. Message threads or topics often contain a title, which is generally selected by the user who posted the first message of the thread. Bulletin boards often also provide the ability for members to communicate on a one-to-one basis through “private messages.” Private messages are similar to e-mail messages that are sent between two members of a bulletin board. They are accessible only by the user who sent/received such a message, or by the Website Administrator.

- b. “Chat” refers to any kind of communication over the Internet that offers a real-time transmission of text messages from sender to receiver. Chat messages are generally short in order to enable other participants to respond quickly and in a format that resembles an oral conversation. This feature distinguishes chatting from other text-based online communications such as Internet forums and email.
- c. “Child Erotica,” as used herein, means materials or items that are sexually arousing to persons having a sexual interest in minors but that are not, in and of themselves, legally obscene or that do not necessarily depict minors in sexually explicit conduct.
- d. “Child Pornography,” as used herein, is defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2256(8) as any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct where (a) the production of the visual depiction involved the use of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, (b) the visual depiction is a digital image, computer image, or computer-generated image that is, or is indistinguishable from, that of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, or (c) the visual depiction has been created, adapted, or modified to appear that an identifiable

minor is engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

- e. “Computer,” as used herein, is defined pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1030(e)(1) as “an electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high speed data processing device performing logical or storage functions, and includes any data storage facility or communications facility directly related to or operating in conjunction with such device.”
- f. “Computer Server” or “Server,” as used herein, is a computer that is attached to a dedicated network and serves many users. A web server, for example, is a computer which hosts the data associated with a website. That web server receives requests from a user and delivers information from the server to the user’s computer via the Internet. A domain name system (“DNS”) server, in essence, is a computer on the Internet that routes communications when a user types a domain name, such as [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com), into his or her web browser. Essentially, the domain name must be translated into an Internet Protocol (“IP”) address so the computer hosting the web site may be located, and the DNS server provides this function.
- g. “Computer hardware,” as used herein, consists of all equipment which can receive, capture, collect, analyze, create, display, convert, store, conceal, or transmit electronic, magnetic, or similar computer impulses or data. Computer hardware includes any data-processing devices (including, but not limited to, central processing units, internal and peripheral storage devices such as fixed disks, external hard drives, floppy disk drives and diskettes, and other memory storage devices); peripheral input/output devices (including, but not limited to, keyboards, printers, video display monitors, and related communications devices such as cables and connections), as well as any devices,

mechanisms, or parts that can be used to restrict access to computer hardware (including, but not limited to, physical keys and locks).

- h. “Computer software,” as used herein, is digital information which can be interpreted by a computer and any of its related components to direct the way they work. Computer software is stored in electronic, magnetic, or other digital form. It commonly includes programs to run operating systems, applications, and utilities.
- i. “Computer-related documentation,” as used herein, consists of written, recorded, printed, or electronically stored material which explains or illustrates how to configure or use computer hardware, computer software, or other related items.
- j. “Computer passwords, pass-phrases and data security devices,” as used herein, consist of information or items designed to restrict access to or hide computer software, documentation, or data. Data security devices may consist of hardware, software, or other programming code. A password or pass-phrase (a string of alpha-numeric characters) usually operates as a sort of digital key to “unlock” particular data security devices. Data security hardware may include encryption devices, chips, and circuit boards. Data security software of digital code may include programming code that creates “test” keys or “hot” keys, which perform certain pre-set security functions when touched. Data security software or code may also encrypt, compress, hide, or “booby-trap” protected data to make it inaccessible or unusable, as well as reverse the process to restore it.
- k. “File Transfer Protocol” (“FTP”), as used herein, is a standard network protocol used to transfer computer files from one host to another over a computer network, such as the Internet. FTP is built on client-server architecture and uses separate control and data



connections between the client and the server.

- l. "Host Name," as used herein, is a name assigned to a device connected to a computer network that is used to identify the device in various forms of electronic communication, such as communications over the Internet;
- m. "Hyperlink" refers to an item on a web page which, when selected, transfers the user directly to another location in a hypertext document or to some other web page.
- n. The "Internet" is a global network of computers and other electronic devices that communicate with each other. Due to the structure of the Internet, connections between devices on the Internet often cross state and international borders, even when the devices communicating with each other are in the same state.
- o. "Internet Service Providers" ("ISPs"), as used herein, are commercial organizations that are in business to provide individuals and businesses access to the Internet. ISPs provide a range of functions for their customers including access to the Internet, web hosting, e-mail, remote storage, and co-location of computers and other communications equipment. ISPs can offer a range of options in providing access to the Internet including telephone based dial-up, broadband based access via digital subscriber line ("DSL") or cable television, dedicated circuits, or satellite based subscription. ISPs typically charge a fee based upon the type of connection and volume of data, called bandwidth, which the connection supports. Many ISPs assign each subscriber an account name – a username or screen name, an "e-mail address," an e-mail mailbox, and a personal password selected by the subscriber. By using a computer equipped with a modem, the subscriber can establish communication with an Internet Service Provider ("ISP") over a telephone line,

through a cable system or via satellite, and can access the Internet by using his or her account name and personal password.

- p. “Internet Protocol address” or “IP address” refers to a unique number used by a computer to access the Internet. IP addresses can be “dynamic,” meaning that the ISP assigns a different unique number to a computer every time it accesses the Internet. IP addresses might also be “static,” if an ISP assigns a user’s computer a particular IP address which is used each time the computer accesses the Internet. IP addresses are also used by computer servers, including web servers, to communicate with other computers.
- q. Media Access Control (“MAC”) address. The equipment that connects a computer to a network is commonly referred to as a network adapter. Most network adapters have a MAC address assigned by the manufacturer of the adapter that is designed to be a unique identifying number. A unique MAC address allows for proper routing of communications on a network. Because the MAC address does not change and is intended to be unique, a MAC address can allow law enforcement to identify whether communications sent or received at different times are associated with the same adapter.
- r. “Minor” means any person under the age of eighteen years. See 18 U.S.C. § 2256(1).
- s. The terms “records,” “documents,” and “materials,” as used herein, include all information recorded in any form, visual or aural, and by any means, whether in handmade form (including, but not limited to, writings, drawings, painting), photographic form (including, but not limited to, microfilm, microfiche, prints, slides, negatives, videotapes, motion pictures, photocopies), mechanical form (including, but not limited to, phonograph records, printing, typing) or electrical, electronic or magnetic form

(including, but not limited to, tape recordings, cassettes, compact discs, electronic or magnetic storage devices such as floppy diskettes, hard disks, CD-ROMs, digital video disks (“DVDs”), Personal Digital Assistants (“PDAs”), Multi Media Cards (“MMCs”), memory sticks, optical disks, printer buffers, smart cards, memory calculators, electronic dialers, or electronic notebooks, as well as digital data files and printouts or readouts from any magnetic, electrical or electronic storage device).

- t. “Secure Shell” (“SSH”), as used herein, is a security protocol for logging into a remote server. SSH provides an encrypted session for transferring files and executing server programs.
- u. “Sexually explicit conduct” means actual or simulated (a) sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, or oral-anal, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex; (b) bestiality; (c) masturbation; (d) sadistic or masochistic abuse; or (e) lascivious exhibition of the genitals or pubic area of any person. See 18 U.S.C. § 2256(2).
- v. “URL” is an abbreviation for Uniform Resource Locator and is another name for a web address. URLs are made of letters, numbers, and other symbols in a standard form. People use them on computers by clicking a pre-prepared link or typing or copying and pasting one into a web browser to make the computer fetch and show some specific resource (usually a web page) from another computer (web server) on the Internet.
- w. “Visual depictions” include undeveloped film and videotape, and data stored on computer disk or by electronic means, which is capable of conversion into a visual image. See 18 U.S.C. § 2256(5).
- x. “Website” consists of textual pages of information and associated graphic images. The



textual information is stored in a specific format known as Hyper-Text Mark-up Language (“HTML”) and is transmitted from web servers to various web clients via Hyper-Text Transport Protocol (“HTTP”).

#### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVESTIGATION AND PROBABLE CAUSE**

6. On September 15, 2015, FBI agents executed a search warrant at 118 Cross Street, Norwell, Massachusetts 02061, attached hereto as Attachment C. During the investigation leading to the issuance of the search warrant, it was discovered that the username “Hello578” utilized the host name “TAILS” on February 26, 2015 to access Website A as described in Attachment C.
7. Upon entry into the Norwell residence agents encountered two individuals, later identified as the homeowners, Mark Pisarkiewicz (“M. Pisarkiewicz”) and Tamara Pisarkiewicz. M. Pisarkiewicz stated that a third individual, their son Geoffrey Matthew Pisarkiewicz also resided at the Norwell residence but was a student at Elon University in North Carolina.
8. M. Pisarkiewicz stated that they owned multiple computers and tablets. The FBI located and conducted an on-site review of a Dell laptop computer, a desktop computer and a Samsung Tablet which yielded negative results for child pornography.
9. During an interview M. Pisarkiewicz additionally stated:
  - a. In February 2015, the only residents of the Norwell residence were he, his wife Tamara Pisarkiewicz, and their son Geoffrey Matthew Pisarkiewicz.
  - b. Their son Geoffrey Matthew Pisarkiewicz lived at the Norwell address in February 2015 but later returned to Elon University in August 2015 and took a

laptop computer and a desktop computer with him.

c. M. Pisarkiewicz stated that his internet service was provided by Verizon, and that service was password protected.

d. M. Pisarkiewicz stated that he never viewed child pornography.

10. Tamara Pisarkiewicz was also interviewed and stated that their son lived at the Norwell, Massachusetts residence in February 2015. Tamara Pisarkiewicz also stated that she never viewed child pornography.

11. On September 15, 2015, FBI agents located Geoffrey Michael Pisarkiewicz at the SUBJECT PREMISES. A silver Toyota Camry with Massachusetts registration 2HB478 was observed in the SUBJECT PREMISE'S driveway. A query of the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles determined that the vehicle was registered to M. Pisarkiewicz of Norwell, Massachusetts.

12. I interviewed Geoffrey Michael Pisarkiewicz at the SUBJECT PREMISE. Pisarkiewicz stated that he was living with his parents in Norwell, Massachusetts in February 2015, and admitted to viewing pornography while at that address. Pisarkiewicz stated "I don't seek out underage porn." Pisarkiewicz stated that he used sites such as xhamster, Reddit, TBLOP, BitTorrent, as well as the name of the "Network" described in Attachment C. When questioned about the "Network", he stated he utilized an application called "TAILS" to use the "Network". "TAILS" was identified as the host computer name when "Website A" was accessed on February 26, 2015 as described in Attachment C.

13. Geoffrey Pisarkiewicz stated that he owned a laptop computer, a desk computer, and a cell phone but denied ever owning a tablet. He stated that it was "possible" that he used his

desktop computer to view child pornography last spring at his parent's home. He also stated that he has five hard drives in his room.

14. On September 15, 2015, FBI agents were requested to interview Geoffrey Matthew Pisarkiewicz at the SUBJECT PREMISES. Pisarkiewicz is currently driving a vehicle registered to Mark Pisarkiewicz, a silver Toyota Camry with Massachusetts license plate 2HB478, seen at the SUBJECT PREMISES in the driveway.

#### **BACKGROUND ON COMPUTERS AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

15. Computers and digital technology have dramatically changed the way in which individuals interested in child pornography interact with each other. Computers basically serve four functions in connection with child pornography: production, communication, distribution, and storage.
16. Child pornographers can now transfer printed photographs into a computer-readable format with a device known as a scanner. Furthermore, with the advent of digital cameras, when the photograph is taken it is saved as a digital file that can be directly transferred to a computer by simply connecting the camera to the computer. In the last ten years, the resolution of pictures taken by digital cameras has increased dramatically, meaning the photos taken with digital cameras have become sharper and crisper. Photos taken on a digital camera are stored on a removable memory card in the camera. These memory cards often store up to 32 gigabytes of data, which provides enough space to store thousands of high-resolution photographs. Video camcorders, which once recorded video onto tapes or mini-CDs, now can save video footage in a digital format directly to a hard drive in the camera. The video



files can be easily transferred from the camcorder to a computer.

17. A device known as a modem allows any computer to connect to another computer through the use of telephone, cable, or wireless connection. Electronic contact can be made to literally millions of computers around the world. The ability to produce child pornography easily, reproduce it inexpensively, and market it anonymously (through electronic communications) has drastically changed the method of distribution and receipt of child pornography. Child pornography can be transferred via electronic mail or through file transfer protocols (FTPs) to anyone with access to a computer and modem. Because of the proliferation of commercial services that provide electronic mail service, chat services (i.e., “Instant Messaging”), and easy access to the Internet, the computer is a preferred method of distribution and receipt of child pornographic materials.
18. The computer’s ability to store images in digital form makes the computer itself an ideal repository for child pornography. The size of the electronic storage media (commonly referred to as the hard drive) used in home computers has grown tremendously within the last several years. These drives can store thousands of images at very high resolution. In addition, there are numerous options available for the storage of computer or digital files. One-Terabyte external and internal hard drives are not uncommon. Other media storage devices include CDs, DVDs, and “thumb,” “jump,” or “flash” drives, which are very small devices which are plugged into a port on the computer. It is extremely easy for an individual to take a photo with a digital camera, upload that photo to a computer, and then copy it (or any other files on the computer) to any one of those media storage devices (CDs and DVDs are unique in that special software must be used to save or “burn” files onto them). Media storage

devices can easily be concealed and carried on an individual's person.

19. The Internet affords individuals several different venues for obtaining, viewing, and trading child pornography in a relatively secure and anonymous fashion.
20. Individuals also use online resources to retrieve and store child pornography, including services offered by Internet Portals such as Yahoo! and Hotmail, among others. The online services allow a user to set up an account with a remote computing service that provides e-mail services as well as electronic storage of computer files in any variety of formats. A user can set up an online storage account from any computer with access to the Internet. Even in cases where online storage is used, however, evidence of child pornography can be found on the user's computer or external media in most cases.
21. As is the case with most digital technology, communications by way of computer can be saved or stored on the computer used for these purposes. Storing this information can be intentional, i.e., by saving an e-mail as a file on the computer or saving the location of one's favorite websites in, for example, "bookmarked" files. Digital information can also be retained unintentionally, e.g., traces of the path of an electronic communication may be automatically stored in many places (e.g., temporary files or ISP client software, among others). In addition to electronic communications, a computer user's Internet activities generally leave traces or "footprints" in the web cache and history files of the browser used. Such information is often maintained indefinitely until overwritten by other data.

#### **PROBABLE CAUSE AND ELECTRONIC DATA**

22. I submit that if a computer storage device (like hard disks and peripheral storage devices) is

found on the SUBJECT PREMISES, there is probable cause to believe evidence described in Attachment B will be stored on that computer storage device, for at least the following reasons:

- a. Based on my knowledge, training, and experience, I know that computer files or remnants of such files can be recovered months or even years after they have been downloaded onto a computer storage device, deleted, or viewed via the Internet. Electronic files downloaded to a computer storage device can be stored for years at little or no cost. Even when files have been deleted, they can be recovered months or years later using forensic tools. This is so because when a person “deletes” a file on a computer, the data contained in the file does not actually disappear; rather, that data remains on the computer storage device until it is overwritten by new data. Therefore, deleted files, or remnants of deleted files, may reside in free space or slack space—that is, in space on the computer storage device that is not currently being used by an active file—for long periods of time before they are overwritten. In addition, a computer’s operating system may also keep a record of deleted data in a “swap” or “recovery” file.
- b. Wholly apart from user-generated files, computer storage devices—in particular, computers’ internal hard disks—contain electronic evidence of how a computer has been used, what it has been used for, and who has used it. To give a few examples, this forensic evidence can take the form of operating system configurations, artifacts from operating system or application operation, file system data structures, and virtual memory “swap” or paging files. Computer users typically do not erase or delete this evidence, because special software is typically required for that task. Similarly, files that have been



viewed via the Internet are sometimes automatically downloaded into a temporary Internet directory or “cache.”

23. As further described in Attachment B, this application seeks permission to locate not only records that might serve as direct evidence of the crimes described in the warrant, but also for records that establish how computer systems were used, the purpose of their use, who used them, and when. There is probable cause to believe that this forensic electronic evidence will be on any computer storage device on the SUBJECT PREMISES because:

- a. Virtual memory paging systems can leave traces of information on computer storage devices that show what tasks and processes were recently active. Web browsers, e-mail programs, and chat programs store configuration information on computer storage devices that can reveal information such as online nicknames and passwords. Operating systems can record additional information, such as the attachment of peripherals, the attachment of USB flash storage devices or other peripheral computer storage devices, and the times the computer was in use. Computer file systems can record information about the dates files were created and the sequence in which they were created.
- b. As explained herein, information stored within a computer storage device may provide crucial evidence of the “who, what, why, when, where, and how” of the criminal conduct under investigation, thus enabling the United States to establish and prove each element or alternatively, to exclude the innocent from further suspicion. In my training and experience, information stored within a computer storage device (e.g., registry information, communications, images and movies, transactional information, records of session times and durations, internet history, and anti-virus, spyware, and malware

detection programs) can indicate who has used or controlled the computer or storage media. This “user attribution” evidence is analogous to the search for “indicia of occupancy” while executing a search warrant at a residence. The existence or absence of anti-virus, spyware, and malware detection programs may indicate whether the computer was remotely accessed, thus inculcating or exculpating the computer owner. Further, computer storage device activity can indicate how and when the computer or device was accessed or used. For example, as described herein, computers typically contain information that log: computer user account session times and durations, computer activity associated with user accounts, peripheral storage devices that connected with the computer, and the IP addresses through which the computer accessed networks and the internet. Such information allows investigators to understand the chronological context of computer system access, use, and events relating to the crime under investigation. Additionally, some information stored within a computer storage device may provide crucial evidence relating to the physical location of other evidence and the suspect. For example, images stored on a computer may both show a particular location and have geolocation information incorporated into its file data. Such file data typically also contains information indicating when the file or image was created. The existence of such image files, along with external device connection logs, may also indicate the presence of additional computer storage devices. The geographic and timeline information described herein may either inculcate or exculpate the computer user. Last, information stored within a computer storage device may provide relevant insight into the computer user’s state of mind as it relates to the offense under investigation. For example, information

within the computer storage device may indicate the owner's motive and intent to commit a crime (e.g., internet searches indicating criminal planning), or consciousness of guilt (e.g., running a "wiping" program to destroy evidence on the computer or password protecting/encrypting such evidence in an effort to conceal it from law enforcement).

- c. The process of identifying the exact files, blocks, registry entries, logs, or other forms of forensic evidence on a computer storage device that are necessary to draw an accurate conclusion is a dynamic process. While it is possible to specify in advance the records to be sought, computer evidence is not always data that can be merely reviewed by a review team and passed along to investigators. Whether data stored on a computer is evidence may depend on other information stored on the computer storage device and the application of knowledge about how a computer behaves. Therefore, contextual information necessary to understand other evidence also falls within the scope of the warrant.
- d. Further, in finding evidence of how a computer system was used, the purpose of its use, who used it, and when, sometimes it is necessary to establish that a particular thing is not present on a computer storage device. For example, the presence or absence of counter-forensic programs or anti-virus programs (and associated data) may be relevant to establishing the user's intent.

#### **SPECIFICS OF SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS**

- 24. Searches and seizures of evidence from computers commonly require agents to download or copy information from the computers and their components, or seize most or all computer



items (computer hardware, computer software, and computer related documentation) to be processed later by a qualified computer expert in a laboratory or other controlled environment. This is almost always true because of the following two reasons

- a. Computer storage devices (like hard disks, diskettes, tapes, laser disks, magneto opticals, and others) can store the equivalent of thousands of pages of information. Rarely does all of this information take the form of documents and files that can be easily viewed on-site. Especially when the user wants to conceal criminal evidence, he or she often stores it in random order with deceptive file names. This requires searching authorities to examine all the stored data that is available in order to determine whether it is included in the warrant that authorizes the search. This sorting process can take days or weeks, depending on the volume of data stored, and is generally difficult to accomplish on-site in a non-intrusive and efficient manner.
- b. Computers can be configured in several different ways, featuring a variety of different operating systems, application software, and configurations. Therefore, searching them sometimes requires tools or knowledge that might not be present at the search site. The vast array of computer hardware and software available makes it difficult to know before a search what tools or knowledge will be required to analyze the system and its data on-site. Further, the search of a computer system is an exacting procedure that is designed to protect the integrity of the evidence and to recover even hidden, erased, compressed, password-protected, or encrypted files. Since computer evidence is extremely vulnerable to tampering or destruction (which may be caused by malicious code or normal activities of an operating system), the controlled environment of a laboratory is essential to its

complete and accurate analysis. Taking the storage media off-site and reviewing it in a controlled environment will allow its examination with the proper tools and knowledge.

25. In order to fully retrieve data from a computer system, the analyst needs all magnetic storage devices as well as the central processing unit (“CPU”). In cases involving child pornography where the evidence consists partly of graphics files, the monitor(s) may be essential for a thorough and efficient search due to software and hardware configuration issues. In addition, the analyst needs all the system software (operating systems or interfaces, and hardware drivers) and any applications software which may have been used to create the data (whether stored on hard drives or on external media).
26. Furthermore, because there is probable cause to believe that the computer and its storage devices are all instrumentalities of crimes, within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252A(a)(5)(B) and (b)(2), they should all be seized as such.

#### **SEARCH METHODOLOGY TO BE EMPLOYED REGARDING ELECTRONIC DATA**

27. Based on the foregoing, and consistent with Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 41(e)(2)(B), the warrant I am applying for would permit seizing, imaging, or otherwise copying computer hardware, computer software, and/or memory storage devices, and would authorize a later review of the media or information consistent with the warrant. The search procedure of electronic data contained in computer hardware, computer software, and/or memory storage devices may include the following techniques (the following is a non-exclusive list, as other search procedures may be used):
- a. on-site triage of computer systems to determine what, if any, peripheral devices or

digital storage units have been connected to such computer systems, a preliminary scan of image files contained on such systems and digital storage devices to help identify any other relevant evidence or potential victims, and a scan for encryption software;

- b. on-site forensic imaging of any computers that may be partially or fully encrypted, in order to preserve unencrypted electronic data that may, if not immediately imaged on-scene, become encrypted and accordingly unavailable for examination; such imaging may require several hours to complete and require law enforcement agents to secure the search scene until that imaging can be completed;
- c. examination of all of the data contained in such computer hardware, computer software, or memory storage devices to view the data and determine whether that data falls within the items to be seized as set forth herein;
- d. searching for and attempting to recover any deleted, hidden, or encrypted data to determine whether that data falls within the list of items to be seized as set forth herein (any data that is encrypted and unreadable will not be returned unless law enforcement personnel have determined that the data is not (1) an instrumentality of the offenses, (2) a fruit of the criminal activity, (3) contraband, (4) otherwise unlawfully possessed, or (5) evidence of the offenses specified above);
- e. surveying various file directories and the individual files they contain;
- f. opening files in order to determine their contents;
- g. scanning storage areas;



- h. performing key word searches through all electronic storage areas to determine whether occurrences of language contained in such storage areas exist that are likely to appear in the evidence described in Attachment B; and
- i. performing any other data analysis technique that may be necessary to locate and retrieve the evidence described in Attachment B.

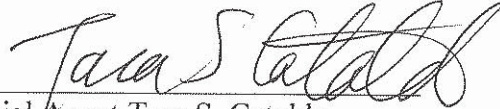
### **REQUEST FOR SEALING**

28. It is respectfully requested that this Court issue an order sealing, until further order of the Court, all papers submitted in support of this application, including the application and search warrant. I believe that sealing this document is necessary because the items and information to be seized are relevant to an ongoing investigation into a criminal organization and not all of the targets of this investigation will be searched at this time. Based upon my training and experience, I have learned that online criminals actively search for criminal affidavits and search warrants via the Internet, and disseminate them to other online criminals as they deem appropriate, i.e., post them publicly online through forums. Premature disclosure of the contents of this affidavit and related documents may have a significant and negative impact on the continuing investigation and may severely jeopardize its effectiveness. Further, this affidavit describes a law enforcement technique in sufficient detail that disclosure of this technique could assist others in thwarting its use in the future.

### **CONCLUSION**

29. Based on the foregoing, there is probable cause to believe that the federal criminal statute

cited herein has been violated, and that the contraband, property, evidence, fruits and instrumentalities of the offense, more fully described in Attachment B of this Affidavit, are located at the SUBJECT PREMISES, described in Attachment A. I respectfully request that this Court issue a search warrant for the SUBJECT PREMISES, authorizing the seizure and search of the items described in Attachment B.



Special Agent Tara S. Cataldo  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to me this 15th day of September 3:55 pm



Joe L. Webster  
United States Magistrate Judge

## ATTACHMENT A

### **Place to be Searched**

The premises located at 807 Jennings Berry Drive, Elon, North Carolina 27244, including the residential dwelling, any out buildings such as a detached garage, shed, or barn, and any vehicle located on the premises registered to the Pisarkiewicz family. The residence located at 807 Jennings Berry Drive, Elon, North Carolina 27244, is described as a single-family dwelling made of gray siding with a red door and black shutters. The numbers "807" are located on the front porch railing of the residence. The residence is the fourth house on the left when heading west on Jennings Berry Drive from Bob Baxter Drive. The residence is listed in Alamance County as Parcel number 108836, Year 2014, Deed Book 3325 Page 0564.





## ATTACHMENT B

### PROPERTY TO BE SEIZED

The following materials and records, which constitute evidence of the commission of a criminal offense, contraband, the fruits of crime, or property designed or intended for use or which is or has been used as the means of committing a criminal offense, namely violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252A(a)(5)(B):

1. Computers or storage media used as a means to commit the violations described above.
2. For any computer or storage medium whose seizure is otherwise authorized by this warrant, and any computer or storage medium that contains or in which is stored records or information that is otherwise called for by this warrant (hereinafter, "COMPUTER"):
  - a. evidence of who used, owned, or controlled the COMPUTER at the time the things described in this warrant were created, edited, or deleted, such as logs, registry entries, configuration files, saved usernames and passwords, documents, browsing history, user profiles, email, email contacts, "chat," instant messaging logs, photographs, and correspondence;
  - b. evidence of software that would allow others to control the COMPUTER, such as viruses, Trojan horses, and other forms of malicious software, as well as evidence of the presence or absence of security software designed to detect malicious software;
  - c. evidence of the lack of such malicious software;
  - d. evidence indicating how and when the computer was accessed or used to determine the chronological context of computer access, use, and events relating to crime under investigation and to the computer user;
  - e. evidence indicating the computer user's state of mind as it relates to the crime under investigation;
  - f. evidence of the attachment to the COMPUTER of other storage devices or similar containers for electronic evidence;
  - g. evidence of counter-forensic programs (and associated data) that are designed to eliminate data from the COMPUTER;

- h. evidence of the times the COMPUTER was used;
  - i. passwords, encryption keys, and other access devices that may be necessary to access the COMPUTER;
  - j. documentation and manuals that may be necessary to access the COMPUTER or to conduct a forensic examination of the COMPUTER;
  - k. records of or information about Internet Protocol addresses used by the COMPUTER;
  - l. records of or information about the COMPUTER's Internet activity, including firewall logs, caches, browser history and cookies, "bookmarked" or "favorite" web pages, search terms that the user entered into any Internet search engine, and records of user-typed web addresses; and
  - m. contextual information necessary to understand the evidence described in this attachment.
3. Records, information, and items relating to violations of the statutes described above including:
- a. records and information constituting or referencing child pornography, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2256(8);
  - b. records and information constituting or referencing child erotica;
  - c. records and information constituting or referencing sexual activity with or sexual interest in minors;
  - d. records or information constituting or referencing the receipt, distribution, or production of child pornography;
  - e. records and information relating to the identity or location of the persons suspected of violating the statute described above;
  - f. records and information relating to sexual exploitation of children, including correspondence and communications between users of "Website A";
  - g. records and information relating to the use of "Website A" and the "the Network";

- h. records and information constituting or referencing personal identifying information or contact information of individuals who were contacted for the purpose of committing violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252A(a)(5)(B);
- i. records and information constituting or referencing membership or participation in groups or services that provide or make accessible child pornography;
- j. records and information referencing accounts with any internet service provider;
- k. records and information referencing the use and identification of remote computing services such as email accounts or cloud storage;
- l. records and information constituting and referencing malicious software; and
- m. records and information revealing and referencing the ownership, occupancy, or possession of 807 Jennings Berry Drive, Elon, North Carolina 27244 and 118 Cross Street, Norwell, Massachusetts 02061.

4. During the course of the search, photographs of the searched premises may be taken to record the condition thereof and/or the location of items therein.

As used above, the terms “records” and “information” includes all forms of creation or storage, including any form of computer or electronic storage (such as hard disks or other media that can store data); any handmade form (such as writing); any mechanical form (such as printing or typing); and any photographic form (such as microfilm, microfiche, prints, slides, negatives, videotapes, motion pictures, or photocopies).

The term “computer” means an electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high speed data processing device performing logical or storage functions, including desktop computers, notebook computers, mobile phones, tablets, server computers, and network hardware.

The term “storage medium” means any physical object upon which computer data can be recorded. Examples include hard disks, RAM, floppy disks, flash memory, CD-ROMs, and other magnetic or optical media.



ATTACHMENT C

## AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR SEARCH WARRANT

### INTRODUCTION

I, Lisa A. Crandall, having been first duly sworn, do hereby depose and state as follows:

1. I have been employed as a Special Agent of the FBI for approximately five years and am currently assigned to the Boston Division, Lakeville Resident Agency. While employed by the FBI, I have investigated federal criminal violations related to, among other things, the on-line sexual exploitation of children. I have received training in the area of child pornography and child exploitation, and have had the opportunity to observe and review numerous examples of child pornography (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2256) in all forms of media including computer media.
2. I have probable cause to believe that contraband and evidence of a crime, fruits of a crime, and instrumentalities of violations of 18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(2)(A) and (b)(1) (receipt and attempt to receive child pornography) and 18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(5)(B) and (b)(2) (possession of, and knowing access with intent to view, child pornography), are located within 118 Cross Street, Norwell, Massachusetts (hereinafter the "SUBJECT PREMISES"). I submit this application and affidavit in support of a search warrant authorizing a search of the SUBJECT PREMISES, as further described in Attachment A, incorporated herein by reference. Located within the SUBJECT PREMISES to be searched, I seek to seize evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities of the foregoing criminal violations as further described in Attachment B, incorporated herein by reference. I request authority to search the entire SUBJECT PREMISES, including the residential dwelling and any computer and computer media located therein where the items specified in Attachment B may be found, and to seize all items listed in Attachment B as contraband and instrumentalities, fruits, and evidence of crime.

3. The statements contained in this affidavit are based in part on: information provided by FBI Special Agents; written reports about this and other investigations that I have received, directly or indirectly, from other law enforcement agents, information gathered from the service of administrative subpoenas; the results of physical and electronic surveillance conducted by law enforcement agents; independent investigation and analysis by FBI agents/analysts and computer forensic professionals; and my experience, training and background as a Special Agent with the FBI. Because this affidavit is submitted for the limited purpose of securing authorization for the requested search warrant, I have not included each and every fact known to me concerning this investigation. Instead, I have set forth only the facts that I believe are necessary to establish the necessary foundation for the requested warrant.

#### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVESTIGATION AND PROBABLE CAUSE**

4. A user of the Internet account at the Subject Premises has been linked to an online community of individuals who regularly send and receive child pornography via a website that operated on an anonymous online network. The website is described below and referred to herein as "Website A."<sup>1</sup> There is probable cause to believe that a user of the Internet account at the Subject Premises knowingly received and distributed child pornography on "Website A."

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<sup>1</sup> The actual name of "Website A" is known to law enforcement. Disclosure of the name of the site would potentially alert its members to the fact that law enforcement action is being taken against the site and its users, potentially provoking members to notify other members of law enforcement action, flee, and/or destroy evidence. Accordingly, for purposes of the confidentiality and integrity of the ongoing investigation involved in this matter, specific names and other identifying factors have been replaced with generic terms and the website will be identified as "Website A."



## The Network<sup>2</sup>

5. “Website A” operated on a network (“the Network”) available to Internet users who are aware of its existence. The Network is designed specifically to facilitate anonymous communication over the Internet. In order to access the Network, a user must install computer software that is publicly available, either by downloading software to the user’s existing web browser, downloading free software available from the Network’s administrators, or downloading a publicly-available third-party application.<sup>3</sup> Using the Network prevents someone attempting to monitor an Internet connection from learning what sites a user visits and prevents the sites the user visits from learning the user’s physical location. Because of the way the Network routes communication through other computers, traditional IP identification techniques are not viable.

6. Websites that are accessible only to users within the Network can be set up within the Network and “Website A” was one such website. Accordingly, “Website A” could not generally be accessed through the traditional Internet.<sup>4</sup> Only a user who had installed the appropriate software on the user’s computer could access “Website A.” Even after connecting to the Network, however, a user had to know the exact web address of “Website A” in order to access it. Websites on the Network are not indexed in the same way as websites on the traditional Internet. Accordingly, unlike

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<sup>2</sup> The actual name of the Network is known to law enforcement. The network remains active and disclosure of the name of the network would potentially alert its members to the fact that law enforcement action is being taken against the network, potentially provoking members to notify other members of law enforcement action, flee, and/or destroy evidence. Accordingly, for purposes of the confidentiality and integrity of the ongoing investigation involved in this matter, specific names and other identifying factors have been replaced with generic terms and the network will be identified as “the Network.”

<sup>3</sup> Users may also access the Network through so-called “gateways” on the open Internet, however, use of those gateways does not provide users with the full anonymizing benefits of the Network.

<sup>4</sup> Due to a misconfiguration, prior to February 20, 2015, Website A was occasionally accessible through the traditional Internet. In order to access Website A in that manner, however, a user would have had to know the exact

on the traditional Internet, a user could not simply perform a Google search for the name of “Website A,” obtain the web address for “Website A,” and click on a link to navigate to “Website A.” Rather, a user had to have obtained the web address for “Website A” directly from another source, such as other users of “Website A,” or from online postings describing both the sort of content available on “Website A” and its location. Accessing “Website A” therefore required numerous affirmative steps by the user, making it extremely unlikely that any user could have simply stumbled upon “Website A” without first understanding its content and knowing that its primary purpose was to advertise and distribute child pornography.

7. The Network’s software protects users’ privacy online by bouncing their communications around a distributed network of relay computers run by volunteers all around the world, thereby masking the user’s actual IP address which could otherwise be used to identify a user.

8. The Network also makes it possible for users to hide their locations while offering various kinds of services, such as web publishing, forum/website hosting, or an instant messaging server. Within the Network itself, entire websites can be set up which operate the same as regular public websites with one critical exception - the IP address for the web server is hidden and instead is replaced with a Network-based web address. A user can only reach such sites if the user is using the Network client and operating in the Network. Because neither a user nor law enforcement can identify the actual IP address of the web server, it is not possible to determine through public lookups where the computer that hosts the website is located. Accordingly, it is not possible to obtain data detailing the activities of the users from the website server through public lookups.

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IP address of the computer server that hosted Website A, which information was not publicly available. As of on or



### Description of "Website A" and its Content

9. "Website A" was a child pornography bulletin board and website dedicated to the advertisement and distribution of child pornography and the discussion of matters pertinent to the sexual abuse of children, including the safety and security of individuals who seek to sexually exploit children online. On or about February 20, 2015, the computer server hosting "Website A" was seized from a web-hosting facility in Lenoir, North Carolina. The website operated in Newington, Virginia, from February 20, 2015, until March 4, 2015, at which time "Website A" ceased to operate. Between February 20, 2015, and March 4, 2015, law enforcement agents acting pursuant to an order of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia monitored electronic communications of users of "Website A." Before, during, and after its seizure by law enforcement, law enforcement agents viewed, examined and documented the contents of "Website A," which are described below.

10. According to statistics posted on the site, "Website A" contained a total of 117,773 posts, 10,622 total topics, and 214,898 total members as of March 4, 2015. The website appeared to have been operating since approximately August 2014, which is when the first post was made on the message board. On the main page of the site, located to either side of the site name were two images depicting partially clothed prepubescent girls with their legs spread apart, along with the text underneath stating, "No cross-board reposts, .7z preferred, encrypt filenames, include preview, Peace out." Based on my training and experience, I know that: "no cross-board reposts" refers to a prohibition against material that is posted on other websites from being "re-posted" to "Website A," and ".7z" refers to a preferred method of compressing large files or sets of files for distribution. Two

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about February 20, 2015, Website A was no longer accessible through the traditional Internet.



data-entry fields with a corresponding "Login" button were located to the right of the site name. Located below the aforementioned items was the message, "Warning! Only registered members are allowed to access the section. Please login below or 'register an account' [(a hyperlink to the registration page)] with "[Website A]." Below this message was the "Login" section, consisting of four data-entry fields with the corresponding text, "Username, Password, Minutes to stay logged in, and Always stay logged in."

11. Upon accessing the "register an account" hyperlink, there was a message that informed users that the forum required new users to enter an email address that looks to be valid. However, the message instructed members not to enter a real email address. The message further stated that once a user registered (by selecting a user name and password), the user would be able to fill out a detailed profile. The message went on to warn the user "[F]or your security you should not post information here that can be used to identify you." The message further detailed rules for the forum and provided other recommendations on how to hide the user's identity for the user's own security.

12. After accepting the above terms, registration to the message board then required a user to enter a username, password, and e-mail account; although a valid e-mail account was not required as described above.

13. After successfully registering and logging into the site, the user could access any number of sections, forums, and sub-forums. Some of the sections, forums, and sub-forums available to users included: (a) How to; (b) General Discussion; (c) [Website A] information and rules; and (d) Security & Technology discussion. Additional sections, forums, and sub-forums included (a) Jailbait – Boy; (b) Jailbait – Girl; (c) Preteen – Boy; (d) Preteen – Girl; (e) Pre-teen Videos – Girl HC; (f) Pre-teen Videos – Boys HC; (g) Toddlers; and (h) Kinky Fetish – Scat. Based on my training and

experience, I know that “jailbait” refers to underage but post-pubescent minors; the abbreviation “HC” means hardcore (i.e., depictions of penetrative sexually explicit conduct); and “scat” refers to the use of feces in various sexual acts, watching someone defecating, or simply seeing the feces. An additional section and forum was also listed in which members could exchange usernames on a Network-based instant messaging service that I know, based upon my training and experience, to be commonly used by subjects engaged in the online sexual exploitation of children.

14. A review of the various topics within the above forums revealed each topic contained a title, the author, the number of replies, the number of views, and the last post. The “last post” section of a particular topic included the date and time of the most recent posting to that thread as well as the author. Upon accessing a topic, the original post appeared at the top of the page, with any corresponding replies to the original post included in the post thread below it. Typical posts appeared to contain text, images, thumbnail-sized previews of images, compressed files (such as Roshal Archive files, commonly referred to as “.rar” files, which are used to store and distribute multiple files within a single file), links to external sites, or replies to previous posts.

15. A review of the various topics within the “[Website A] information and rules,” “How to,” “General Discussion,” and “Security & Technology discussion” forums revealed that the majority contained general information in regards to the site, instructions and rules for how to post, and welcome messages between users.

16. A review of topics within the remaining forums revealed the majority contained discussions about, and numerous images that appeared to depict, child pornography and child erotica depicting prepubescent girls, boys, and toddlers. Examples of these are as follows:

- (a) On February 3, 2015, a user posted a topic entitled “Buratino-06” in the forum “Pre-

teen – Videos - Girls HC” that contained numerous images depicting child pornography of a prepubescent or early pubescent girl. One of these images depicted the girl being orally penetrated by the penis of a naked male;

(b) On January 30, 2015, a user posted a topic entitled “Sammy” in the forum “Pre-teen – Photos – Girls” that contained hundreds of images depicting child pornography of a prepubescent girl. One of these images depicted the female being orally penetrated by the penis of a male; and

(c) On September 16, 2014, a user posted a topic entitled “9yo Niece - Horse.mpg” in the “Pre-teen Videos - Girls HC” forum that contained four images depicting child pornography of a prepubescent girl and a hyperlink to an external website that contained a video file depicting what appeared to be the same prepubescent girl. Among other things, the video depicted the prepubescent female, who was naked from the waist down with her vagina and anus exposed, lying or sitting on top of a naked adult male, whose penis was penetrating her anus.

17. A list of members, which was accessible after registering for an account, revealed that approximately 100 users made at least 100 posts to one or more of the forums. Approximately 31 of these users made at least 300 posts. In total, “Website A” contained thousands of postings and messages containing child pornography images. Those images included depictions of nude prepubescent minors lasciviously exposing their genitals or engaged in sexually explicit conduct with adults or other children.

18. “Website A” also included a feature referred to as “[Website A] Image Hosting.” This feature of “Website A” allowed users of “Website A” to upload links to images of child pornography



that are accessible to all registered users of "Website A." On February 12, 2015, an FBI Agent accessed a post on "Website A" titled "Giselita" which was created by a particular "Website A" user.

The post contained links to images stored on "[Website A] Image Hosting." The images depicted a prepubescent girl in various states of undress. Some images were focused on the nude genitals of a prepubescent girl. Some images depicted an adult male's penis partially penetrating the vagina of a prepubescent girl.

19. Text sections of "Website A" provided forums for discussion of methods and tactics to use to perpetrate child sexual abuse.

- a. On January 8, 2015, a user posted a topic entitled "should i proceed?" in the forum "Stories - Non-Fiction" that contained a detailed accounting of an alleged encounter between the user and a 5 year old girl. The user wrote "...it felt amazing feeling her hand touch my dick even if it was through blankets and my pajama bottoms..." The user ended his post with the question, "should I try to proceed?" and further stated that the girl "seemed really interested and was smiling a lot when she felt my cock." A different user replied to the post and stated, "...let her see the bulge or even let her feel you up...you don't know how she might react, at this stage it has to be very playful..."

#### Court Authorized Use of Network Investigative Technique

20. Websites generally have Internet Protocol ("IP") address logs that can be used to locate and identify the site's users. In such cases, after the seizure of a website whose users were engaging in unlawful activity, law enforcement could review those logs in order to determine the IP addresses used by users of "Website A" to access the site. A publicly available lookup could then be

performed to determine what Internet Service Provider (“ISP”) owned the target IP address. A subpoena could then be sent to that ISP to determine the user to which the IP address was assigned at a given date and time.

21. However, because of the Network software utilized by “Website A,” any such logs of user activity would contain only the IP addresses of the last computer through which the communications of “Website A” users were routed before the communications reached their destinations. The last computer is not the actual user who sent the communication or request for information, and it is not possible to trace such communications back through the Network to that actual user. Such IP address logs therefore could not be used to locate and identify users of “Website A.”

22. Accordingly, on February 20, 2015, the same date “Website A” was seized, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia authorized a search warrant to allow law enforcement agents to deploy a Network Investigative Technique (“NIT”) on “Website A” in an attempt to identify the actual IP addresses and other identifying information of computers used to access “Website A.” Pursuant to that authorization, between February 20, 2015, and approximately March 4, 2015, each time any user or administrator logged into “Website A” by entering a username and password, the FBI was authorized to deploy the NIT which would send one or more communications to the user’s computer. Those communications were designed to cause the receiving computer to deliver to a computer known to or controlled by the government data that would help identify the computer, its location, other information about the computer, and the user of the computer accessing “Website A.” That data included: the computer’s actual IP address, and the date and time that the NIT determined what that IP address was; a unique identifier generated by the NIT (e.g., a series of numbers, letters, and/or special characters) to distinguish the data from that of

other computers; the type of operating system running on the computer, including type (e.g., Windows), version (e.g., Windows 7), and architecture (e.g., x 86); information about whether the NIT had already been delivered to the computer; the computer's Host Name; the computer's active operating system username; and the computer's MAC address. I am aware that the NIT utilized in this investigation identified IP addresses and other information described herein pertaining to numerous "Website A" users. To date, numerous search warrants have been authorized and executed throughout the United States based, in part, upon IP address and other information collected by the NIT. Numerous users of "Website A" have been successfully identified subsequent to those searches, based upon information including but not limited to subject interviews, preliminary forensic examination of seized digital devices, and IP address and other information collected by the NIT.

"Hello578" on "Website A"

23. According to data obtained from logs on "Website A," monitoring by law enforcement and the deployment of a NIT, a user with the user name "Hello578" engaged in the following activity on "Website A."

24. The profile page of user "Hello578" indicated this user originally registered an account on "Website A" on December 15, 2014. Profile information on "Website A" may include contact information and other information that is supplied by the user. It also contains information about that user's participation on the site, including statistical information about the user's posts to the site and a categorization of those posts. According to the user "Hello578's" profile, this user was a "Newbie" Member of "Website A." Further, according to the Statistics section of this user's profile, the user "Hello578" had been actively logged into the website for a total of 15 hours, 27 minutes and



50 seconds between the dates of December, 15 2014 and February 26, 2015.

25. According to the statistics on user “Hello578’s” profile page, on February 26, 2015, this user viewed approximately 114 threads posted on “Website A.”

IP Address and Identification of User “Hello578” on “Website A”

26. According to data obtained from logs on “Website A,” monitoring by law enforcement, and the deployment of a NIT, on February 26, 2015, the user “Hello578” engaged in the following activity on “Website A” from IP address 173.76.36.77, starting at approximately 00:54 UTC. During the session described below, this user browsed “Website A” after logging into “Website A” with a username and a password.

27. On February 26, 2015, the user “Hello578” at approximately 1:09:00 UTC with IP address 173.76.36.77 accessed a thread in the Family Play Pen – Incest forum (Thread 16679) titled “Mom and Daughter Full Love (the properly cropped version).” The thread contained a link to one file, which contained a set of 40 images that depicted a prepubescent female approximately four to seven years old in various sexually explicit stages to include a image of the prepubescent female’s genitalia being touched by the hand of adult female and another depicts the adult female performing oral sex on the prepubescent female. I have examined the link contained within that thread and believe that the images within that link contain child pornography, attached as exhibit 27.

28. On February 26, 2015, the user “Hello578” at approximately 2:00:39 UTC accessed another thread which was located in the Request Forum titled “More with little anal queen.” The thread contained a link to four images that depicted a minor prepubescent female approximately eight to eleven years old. In one of images, the prepubescent female is being penetrated by the

genitalia of an adult male and in another one of the images the prepubescent female is laying naked exposing her genitalia. I have examined the links contained within the thread and believe that images within those links contain child pornography, attached as exhibit 28.

29. On February 26, 2015, the user "Hello578" at approximately 2:20:41 UTC accessed a thread located within the Vintage Forum (Thread 18562) titled, "School boy's sex orgie.mp4." The thread contained a link to two files. One of the files contained twenty five still images of minor males in various stages of undress and sexual activity. One of twenty five images depicted three prepubescent males, approximately four to eight years old in which one of the prepubescent males was performing oral sex on the second prepubescent males who was performing oral sex on the third prepubescent male. I have examined the links contained within the thread and believe that images with the links contain child pornography, attached as exhibit 29.

30. Using publicly available websites, FBI Special Agents were able to determine that the above IP Address 173.76.36.77, was operated by the Internet Service Provider ("ISP") Verizon.

31. In March 2015, an administrative subpoena/summons was served to Verizon requesting information related to the user who was assigned to the above IP address on February 26, 2015 at 00:54 UTC. . Verizon identified Mark Pisarkiewicz as the subscriber of IP address 173.76.36.77 from January 3, 2015 to March 10, 2015 continuously with a service address of 118 Cross Street, Norwell, MA.

32. On August 26, 2015, the FBI conducted a database search of public records for the SUBJECT PREMISES, 118 Cross Street, Norwell, MA. The search listed Mark Pisarkiewicz, Tamara Pisarkiewicz, Christopher Pisarkiewicz, and Geoffrey Pisarkiewicz as current residents of 118 Cross Street, Norwell, MA. Christopher Pisarkiewicz is listed as having two addresses, 118 Cross Street,

Norwell, MA and 17 Kamark Drive, Medfield, MA. Records indicated that Mark and Tamara had resided at the residence since 1983.

33. A check of the MA Registry of Motor Vehicles ("RMV") showed that Mark, Tamara and Geoffrey Pisarkiewicz listed 118 Cross Street, Norwell, MA as their residence address. Chris Pisarkiewicz's residence address was listed as 17 Kamark Drive, Medfield, MA. Three active vehicles were registered in Mark Pisarkiewicz's name and subject address.

34. The 2015 Town of Norwell Directory listed the following individuals with their corresponding occupation as residence of subject address: Geoffrey Pisarkiewicz; Student, Mark Pisarkiewicz; Salesman/Elec and Tamara Pisarkiewicz; Designer/Arch.

35. On August 28, 2015, the affiant conducted a physical surveillance in the vicinity of 118 Cross Street, Norwell, MA. The subject residence was a single family residence, light gray in color with white trim and black shutters. The residence was accessed by a shared driveway. The number "118" was affixed in between the two stall garage doors.

**CHARACTERISTICS COMMON TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ACCESS WITH INTENT  
TO VIEW AND POSSESS, COLLECT, RECEIVE, OR DISTRIBUTE CHILD  
PORNOGRAPHY**

36. Based on my previous investigative experience related to child pornography investigations, and the training and experience of other law enforcement officers with whom I have had discussions, I know there are certain characteristics common to individuals who utilize web based bulletin boards to access with intent to view and possess, collect, receive or distribute images of child pornography:

- a. Individuals who access with intent to view and possess, collect, receive or distribute child pornography may receive sexual gratification, stimulation, and satisfaction from contact with children; or from fantasies they may have viewing children engaged in sexual activity or



in sexually suggestive poses, such as in person, in photographs, or other visual media; or from literature describing such activity.

b. Individuals who access with intent to view and possess, collect, receive, or distribute child pornography may collect sexually explicit or suggestive materials, in a variety of media, including photographs, magazines, motion pictures, videotapes, books, slides and/or drawings or other visual media. Individuals who have a sexual interest in children or images of children oftentimes use these materials for their own sexual arousal and gratification. Further, they may use these materials to lower the inhibitions of children they are attempting to seduce, to arouse the selected child partner, or to demonstrate the desired sexual acts.

c. Individuals who access with intent to view and possess, collect, receive, or distribute child pornography almost always possess and maintain their “hard copies” of child pornographic material, that is, their pictures, films, video tapes, magazines, negatives, photographs, correspondence, mailing lists, books, tape recordings, etc., in the privacy and security of their home or some other secure location. Individuals who have a sexual interest in children or images of children typically retain pictures, films, photographs, negatives, magazines, correspondence, books, tape recordings, mailing lists, child erotica, and videotapes for many years.

d. Likewise, individuals who access with intent to view and possess, collect, receive or distribute child pornography often maintain their collections that are in a digital or electronic format in a safe, secure and private environment, such as a computer and surrounding area. These collections are often maintained for several years and are kept close by, usually at the collector’s residence or inside the collector’s vehicle, to enable the individual to view the

collection, which is valued highly.

e. Individuals who access with intent to view and possess, collect, receive or distribute child pornography also may correspond with and/or meet others to share information and materials; rarely destroy correspondence from other child pornography distributors/collectors; conceal such correspondence as they do their sexually explicit material; and often maintain lists of names, addresses, and telephone numbers of individuals with whom they have been in contact and who share the same interests in child pornography.

f. Individuals who would have knowledge about how to access a hidden and embedded bulletin board would have gained knowledge of its location through online communication with others of similar interest. Other forums, such as bulletin boards, newsgroups, Internet Relay Chat or chat rooms, have forums dedicated to the trafficking of child pornography images. Individuals who utilize these types of forums are considered more advanced users and therefore more experienced in acquiring a collection of child pornography images.

g. Individuals who access with intent to view and possess, collect, receive or distribute child pornography prefer not to be without their child pornography for any prolonged time period. This behavior has been documented by law enforcement officers involved in the investigation of child pornography throughout the world.

37. Based upon the foregoing, I believe that a user of the Internet account at SUBJECT PREMISES likely displays characteristics common to individuals who access with the intent to view and possess, collect, receive, or distribute child pornography.

#### **BACKGROUND ON COMPUTERS AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

38. Computers and digital technology have dramatically changed the way in which individuals interested in child pornography interact with each other. Computers basically serve four functions in connection with child pornography: production, communication, distribution, and storage.

39. Child pornographers can now transfer printed photographs into a computer-readable format with a device known as a scanner. Furthermore, with the advent of digital cameras, when the photograph is taken it is saved as a digital file that can be directly transferred to a computer by simply connecting the camera to the computer. In the last ten years, the resolution of pictures taken by digital cameras has increased dramatically, meaning the photos taken with digital cameras have become sharper and crisper. Photos taken on a digital camera are stored on a removable memory card in the camera. These memory cards often store up to 32 gigabytes of data, which provides enough space to store thousands of high-resolution photographs. Video camcorders, which once recorded video onto tapes or mini-CDs, now can save video footage in a digital format directly to a hard drive in the camera. The video files can be easily transferred from the camcorder to a computer.

40. A device known as a modem allows any computer to connect to another computer through the use of telephone, cable, or wireless connection. Electronic contact can be made to literally millions of computers around the world. The ability to produce child pornography easily, reproduce it inexpensively, and market it anonymously (through electronic communications) has drastically changed the method of distribution and receipt of child pornography. Child pornography can be transferred via electronic mail or through file transfer protocols (FTPs) to anyone with access to a computer and modem. Because of the proliferation of commercial services that provide electronic mail service, chat services (i.e., "Instant Messaging"), and easy access to the Internet, the computer is a preferred method of distribution and receipt of child pornographic materials.



41. The computer's ability to store images in digital form makes the computer itself an ideal repository for child pornography. The size of the electronic storage media (commonly referred to as the hard drive) used in home computers has grown tremendously within the last several years. These drives can store thousands of images at very high resolution. In addition, there are numerous options available for the storage of computer or digital files. One-Terabyte external and internal hard drives are not uncommon. Other media storage devices include CDs, DVDs, and "thumb," "jump," or "flash" drives, which are very small devices which are plugged into a port on the computer. It is extremely easy for an individual to take a photo with a digital camera, upload that photo to a computer, and then copy it (or any other files on the computer) to any one of those media storage devices (CDs and DVDs are unique in that special software must be used to save or "burn" files onto them). Media storage devices can easily be concealed and carried on an individual's person.

42. The Internet affords individuals several different venues for obtaining, viewing, and trading child pornography in a relatively secure and anonymous fashion.

43. Individuals also use online resources to retrieve and store child pornography, including services offered by Internet Portals such as Yahoo! and Hotmail, among others. The online services allow a user to set up an account with a remote computing service that provides e-mail services as well as electronic storage of computer files in any variety of formats. A user can set up an online storage account from any computer with access to the Internet. Even in cases where online storage is used, however, evidence of child pornography can be found on the user's computer or external media in most cases.

44. As is the case with most digital technology, communications by way of computer can be saved or stored on the computer used for these purposes. Storing this information can be intentional,

i.e., by saving an e-mail as a file on the computer or saving the location of one's favorite websites in, for example, "bookmarked" files. Digital information can also be retained unintentionally, e.g., traces of the path of an electronic communication may be automatically stored in many places (e.g., temporary files or ISP client software, among others). In addition to electronic communications, a computer user's Internet activities generally leave traces or "footprints" in the web cache and history files of the browser used. Such information is often maintained indefinitely until overwritten by other data.

#### **SPECIFICS OF SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS**

45. Searches and seizures of evidence from computers commonly require agents to download or copy information from the computers and their components, or seize most or all computer items (computer hardware, computer software, and computer related documentation) to be processed later by a qualified computer expert in a laboratory or other controlled environment.

This is almost always true because of the following two reasons:

- a. Computer storage devices (like hard disks, diskettes, tapes, laser disks, magneto opticals, and others) can store the equivalent of thousands of pages of information. Especially when the user wants to conceal criminal evidence, he or she often stores it in random order with deceptive file names. This requires searching authorities to examine all the stored data that is available in order to determine whether it is included in the warrant that authorizes the search. This sorting process can take days or weeks, depending on the volume of data stored, and is generally difficult to accomplish on-site.
- b. Searching computer systems for criminal evidence is a highly technical process

requiring expert skill and a properly controlled environment. The vast array of computer hardware and software available requires even computer experts to specialize in some systems and applications, so it is difficult to know before a search which expert should analyze the system and its data. The search of a computer system is an exacting scientific procedure that is designed to protect the integrity of the evidence and to recover even hidden, erased, compressed, password-protected, or encrypted files. Since computer evidence is extremely vulnerable to tampering or destruction (which may be caused by malicious code or normal activities of an operating system), the controlled environment of a laboratory is essential to its complete and accurate analysis.

46. In order to fully retrieve data from a computer system, the analyst needs all magnetic storage devices as well as the central processing unit ("CPU"). In cases involving child pornography where the evidence consists partly of graphics files, the monitor(s) may be essential for a thorough and efficient search due to software and hardware configuration issues. In addition, the analyst needs all the system software (operating systems or interfaces, and hardware drivers) and any applications software which may have been used to create the data (whether stored on hard drives or on external media).

47. Furthermore, because there is probable cause to believe that the computer and its storage devices are all instrumentalities of crimes, within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2251 through 2256, they should all be seized as such.

#### **SEARCH METHODOLOGY TO BE EMPLOYED REGARDING ELECTRONIC DATA**



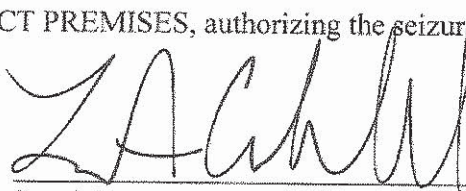
48. The search procedure of electronic data contained in computer hardware, computer software, and/or memory storage devices may include the following techniques (the following is a non-exclusive list, as other search procedures may be used):

- a. on-site triage of computer systems to determine what, if any, peripheral devices or digital storage units have been connected to such computer systems, a preliminary scan of image files contained on such systems and digital storage devices to help identify any other relevant evidence or potential victims, and a scan for encryption software;
- b. on-site forensic imaging of any computers that may be partially or fully encrypted, in order to preserve unencrypted electronic data that may, if not immediately imaged on-scene, become encrypted and accordingly unavailable for examination; such imaging may require several hours to complete and require law enforcement agents to secure the search scene until that imaging can be completed;
- c. examination of all of the data contained in such computer hardware, computer software, or memory storage devices to view the data and determine whether that data falls within the items to be seized as set forth herein;
- d. searching for and attempting to recover any deleted, hidden, or encrypted data to determine whether that data falls within the list of items to be seized as set forth herein (any data that is encrypted and unreadable will not be returned unless law enforcement personnel have determined that the data is not (1) an instrumentality of the offenses, (2) a fruit of the criminal activity, (3) contraband, (4) otherwise unlawfully possessed, or (5) evidence of the offenses specified above);

- e. surveying various file directories and the individual files they contain;
- f. opening files in order to determine their contents;
- g. scanning storage areas;
- h. performing key word searches through all electronic storage areas to determine whether occurrences of language contained in such storage areas exist that are likely to appear in the evidence described in **Attachment B**; and
- i. performing any other data analysis technique that may be necessary to locate and retrieve the evidence described in **Attachment B**.

**Conclusion**

49. Based on the foregoing, there is probable cause to believe that the federal criminal statutes cited herein have been violated, and that the contraband, property, evidence, fruits and instrumentalities of these offenses, more fully described in Attachment B of this Affidavit, are located at the SUBJECT PREMISES, described in Attachment A. I respectfully request that this Court issue a search warrant for the SUBJECT PREMISES, authorizing the seizure and search of the items described in Attachment B.



Special Agent Lisa A. Crandall  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 11th day of September, 2015.

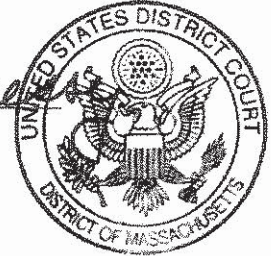


DAVID H. HENNESSY  
United States Magistrate Judge



I have reviewed the images referenced in paragraphs 27, 28 and 29 above and I find probable cause to believe they depict minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct. The affiant shall preserve the images and video provided to the Court for the duration of the pendency of this matter, including any relevant appeal process.

  
DAVID H. HENNESSY  
United States Magistrate Judge





## ATTACHMENT A

The location known as 118 Cross Street, Norwell, Massachusetts, 02061, is identified as a single family residence, light gray in color with white trim and black shutters. The subject residence is accessed by a shared driveway. Upon accessing the shared driveway, subject residence is located to the right. The driveway to subject residence leads to a two stall garage located on the left side of the residence (facing). The number "118" is affixed in between the two garage doors.

## ATTACHMENT B

### **Information to be Seized**

The following materials, which constitute evidence of the commission of a criminal offense, contraband, the fruits of crime, or property designed or intended for use or which is or has been used as the means of committing a criminal offense, namely violations of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2251 and 2252A:

1. Computers or storage media used as a means to commit the violations described above.
2. For any computer or storage medium whose seizure is otherwise authorized by this warrant, and any computer or storage medium that contains or in which is stored records or information that is otherwise called for by this warrant (hereinafter, "COMPUTER"):
  - a. evidence of who used, owned, or controlled the COMPUTER at the time the things described in this warrant were created, edited, or deleted, such as logs, registry entries, configuration files, saved usernames and passwords, documents, browsing history, user profiles, email, email contacts, "chat," instant messaging logs, photographs, and correspondence;
  - b. evidence of software that would allow others to control the COMPUTER, such as viruses, Trojan horses, and other forms of malicious software, as well as evidence of the presence or absence of security software designed to detect malicious software;
  - c. evidence of the lack of such malicious software;
  - d. evidence indicating how and when the computer was accessed or used to determine the chronological context of computer access, use, and events relating to crime under investigation and to the computer user;
  - e. evidence indicating the computer user's state of mind as it relates to the crime under investigation;
  - f. evidence of the attachment to the COMPUTER of other storage devices or similar containers for electronic evidence;

- g. evidence of counter-forensic programs (and associated data) that are designed to eliminate data from the COMPUTER;
  - h. evidence of the times the COMPUTER was used;
  - i. passwords, encryption keys, and other access devices that may be necessary to access the COMPUTER;
  - j. documentation and manuals that may be necessary to access the COMPUTER or to conduct a forensic examination of the COMPUTER;
  - k. records of or information about Internet Protocol addresses used by the COMPUTER;
  - l. records of or information about the COMPUTER's Internet activity, including firewall logs, caches, browser history and cookies, "bookmarked" or "favorite" web pages, search terms that the user entered into any Internet search engine, and records of user-typed web addresses; and
  - m. contextual information necessary to understand the evidence described in this attachment.
3. Routers, modems, and network equipment used to connect computers to the Internet.
  4. Child pornography and child erotica.
  5. Records, information, and items relating to violations of the statutes described above including
    - a. Records, information, and items relating to the occupancy or ownership of 118 Cross Street, Norwell, Massachusetts including utility and telephone bills, mail envelopes, or addressed correspondence; Records, information, and items relating to the ownership or use of computer equipment found in the above residence, including sales receipts, bills for Internet access, and handwritten notes; and
    - b. Records and information relating to sexual exploitation of children, including correspondence and communications between users of "Website A."

As used above, the terms "records" and "information" includes all forms of creation or storage, including any form of computer or electronic storage (such as hard disks or other media



that can store data); any handmade form (such as writing); any mechanical form (such as printing or typing); and any photographic form (such as microfilm, microfiche, prints, slides, negatives, videotapes, motion pictures, or photocopies).

The term “computer” includes all types of electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high speed data processing devices performing logical, arithmetic, or storage functions, including desktop computers, notebook computers, mobile phones, tablets, server computers, and network hardware.

The term “storage medium” includes any physical object upon which computer data can be recorded. Examples include hard disks, RAM, floppy disks, flash memory, CD-ROMs, and other magnetic or optical media.